covered earlier due to the ceilling of 15.33 per cent; and

(c) if so, what is the requirement of foodgrains to cover one crore additional families estimated under this programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) to (c) The question of extending the scope of the Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) as part of the initiative towards providing support and food security to the most vulnerable sections such as old people, widows and disabled persons, without family or societal support, is receiving attention.

Food security

†966. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the foodgrains security is a bigger danger than the population growth; and

(b) if so, the details as well as the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) and (b) There is no danger to the foodgrains security from the population growth.

Essential Commodities for H.P.

967. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of wheat, rice, kerosene and sugar allotted to Himachal Pradesh, district-wise, during 2000-01, 2001-02 and for ten months from April, 2002 to January, 2003 for distribution through Public Distribution System;

(b) whether Government have effected any change in the policy of distribution of wheat, rice, kerosene and sugar through the PDS during the above period in the State; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.